

(1) whether they have received a petition dated 8th Mithunam 1104 from the public of Chittur praying for the reconsideration of the suitability of the site selected for the Girls' School;

(2) whether they have enquired into the reasons given therein; and

(3) what the conclusion they have come to?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(1) Yes.

(2) and (3). The matter is being enquired into by the Director of Public Instruction.

Acquisition for the Tiruvilluamala Girls' School.

146. Mr. T. K. Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(1) whether the Director of Public Instruction ever visited the plot that is proposed to be acquired for the Girls' School, Tiruvilluamala;

(2) what action was taken on the complaint made by the owner of the above plot?

Rao Sahib Mr. C. Matthai.—(1) Yes.

(2) The acquisition of the plot originally proposed was dropped and another site selected.

Opening of a canal for irrigation purposes.

147. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) what orders have been passed on the petition, dated Chingam 5, 1104, from Mr. Nambalat Sankunni Panikkar and the people of Kunnankulam, Mangad and Porkkulam, submitted to the Chief Engineer regarding the opening of a canal for irrigation;

(b) whether the above work will be undertaken in the ensuing year?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—(a) and (b). A copy of the order is placed on the Table (*Vide Appendix II.*)

Devadasi system.

148. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform :—

(1) whether the 'Devadasi' system is in existence in any part of the State;

(2) and if so, whether the Government have received in the last four years any representation praying for its abolition?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—In what parts of the State is the system in existence?

Mr. T. M. Krishna Menon.—In the Cochin-Kanayannur Taluk and the Cranganur Taluk.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—How many requests were there?